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The Annals

OF THE
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Social and Industrial Conditions in the Germany of Today

EDITORS

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OF THE GERMAN MISSION OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS' SERVICE COMMITTEE



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THE editors of THE ANNALS desire to express for all of the members of the Academy appreciation of the services of Mr. Robert W. Balderston and Mr. Richard L. Cary who were responsible for the securing of contributors for this issue of THE ANNALS. The members of the Editorial Council decided that a real service would be done for all by publishing a series of articles dealing with social and industrial conditions in the Germany of today. The difficulty was to get a group of responsible editors who would be shorn of occupational bias or of racial interest.

Happily at this time Mr. Hoover turned over the work of feeding the children in Germany to the Quakers of the United States. The Quakers administered this work through the American Friends' Service Committee, with headquarters in Philadelphia. The Editorial Council thereupon asked Messrs. Robert W. Balderston, Secretary of the Interstate Milk Producers' Association of Philadelphia, and Richard L. Cary, Associate Editor of the *Baltimore Sun*, both members of this Mission, to act as special editors in charge of this volume and to take the responsibility for a series of articles to be written by Germans and by representative business men of the Allied nations then in Germany, reflecting the true situation on economic, social and financial conditions in Germany. Both of these special editors have spent at least six months in Germany, meeting daily the civilian population and the leaders of present-day thought. This volume is an outgrowth of their best judgment and of many hours spent in searching for the contributors best qualified to present to the readers of THE ANNALS everywhere

the facts as to the status of workaday and social conditions in Germany.

All must recognize the grave difficulties under which writers in Germany must now labor. Statistics have not been kept up with former accuracy, and facts are not as readily available as in prewar days.

Dr. Freidrich Ollendorff represented the Academy in Germany in collecting and forwarding manuscripts after the Editors-in-Charge of the volume had completed their arrangements and had left for the United States.

We also desire to acknowledge our debt to the translators of the German articles. These translators are named for each article. Many German phrases of today are of war origin and are not found in German dictionaries now in use in this country. The translating has been, therefore, doubly difficult. Among these translators we should particularly mention those who have repeatedly advised the editors in this work or who have translated more than two articles. Professor D. B. Shumway has been helpful in translation and with advice and assistance, and Dr. E. M. Fogel has given many days of his time to translation and helpful consultation. Dr. Karl Sholz has translated with skill three of the longest and most difficult articles of the volume.

The Editorial Council authorized this volume with the full knowledge that a few may, before reflection, feel that an opportunity should not be given to American travellers and to business men of other nations and to German officials and scholars to present their views as to current German conditions to a world audience so shortly

after the war. We believe, however, that this spirit has almost wholly given way to a wholesome desire on the part of the readers of *THE ANNALS* everywhere to get a survey of conditions in Germany both from leaders of Allied countries who have worked and travelled extensively in Germany, and from the German officials and scholars who are, perforce, most intimately in touch with the environment and facts of the present day. In this, as in all other volumes of *THE ANNALS*, the Editorial Council cannot take responsibility for the point of view or the opinions of the contributors.

The reader of these articles must remember that the articles detail the situation which Germany is facing. It is quite impossible in a single volume to present a comprehensive sum-

mary of the economic situation in Europe and yet it must not be forgotten that the European problem should be studied as a whole and not as a series of national problems. An authoritative and impartial account of the factors which are operating throughout Europe to depress the standards of living of all industrial workers and to enhance the unrest which is the natural result of apprehension as to the future, can be prepared only after thorough national studies have been made. The present volume should be of service because of the data which it supplies to those who are interested in the major problems of Europe, as well as to those who desire to know how Germany is meeting these problems within her own boundaries.

CLYDE L. KING.